

REMARKS

This amendment responds to the Office Action dated July 27, 2004.

Claim 17 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Claims 32 and 34 have been amended to broaden the scope of each respective claim. Claim 32 now includes the step of “mismatching said polarization states of said second and third color components relative to each other while said second and third color components are within the same beam.” This amendment clarifies that the polarization state of either of the second or third color components may be changed to provide the claimed mismatch. Similarly, claim 34 provides the additional limitation that “said polarization states of said second and third color components are matched again before generating said image from said second color component.” This amendment removes the requirement that the same color component that was changed as per claim 32 be changed again to provide the claimed “match.”

On August 3, 2004, the Examiner issued a restriction requirement, asserting that the present application presented four distinct species, represented by FIGS. 3, 4A and B, 5, and 6, respectively. On April 19, 2004, the applicant submitted a response that, after electing one of the asserted species and canceling claims directed to other species, stated that some of the canceled claims may have read upon the elected species and that the remaining claims may, in addition to reading upon the elected species also read on other species. Because of this statement, the Examiner held that the response was not responsive to the restriction requirement and gave the applicant until August 27, 2004 to file a responsive answer. Because the response dated August 3, 2004, was deemed non-responsive, the present amendment assumes that the April 3, 2004 filing did not effect on election or an amendment of any pending claims.

The applicant elects species III, represented by FIG. 5. The claims that read upon this species are 1-4, 6, 8-11, 13-19, 23-34, 36-40, 42, and 43. The remaining claims have been canceled.

With respect to Independent claim 1, FIG. 5 shows a light source 12, a polarizing device 20, at least one polarizing beam splitter 140 and 216, at least one image generator 14, 16, and 18, a projection source 62, and color component rotators 138, 208, and 210. Dependent

claims 2-4, 6 and 8-16 each depend from independent claim 17 and describe elements or limitations described in FIG. 5 and the accompanying portions of the specification.

With respect to independent claim 17, FIG. 5 shows a light source 12, a polarization converter 20, at least one polarizing beam splitter 140 and 216, at least three image generators 14, 16, and 18, a projection source 62, and color component rotators 138, 208, and 210. Dependent claims 18-19 and 23-21 each depend from independent claim 17 and describe elements or limitations described in FIG. 5 and the accompanying portions of the specification.

With respect to independent claim 32, FIG. 5 shows a system for providing light composed of three color components, converting the light to a single polarization state, separating a first color component from a second and third color component while all three color components are in the same beam, mismatching the polarization states of the second and third color components, separating the second and third color components, generating respective images from each of the first, second, and third color components, and projecting the images. Dependent claims 33, 34, 36-40, 42, and 43 each depend from independent claim 32 and describe elements or limitations described in FIG. 5 and the accompanying portions of the specification.

For the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 13-50.

Respectfully submitted,



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